

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND LABOR

Call to Order: Chair Mark Noland, on March 22, 2017 at 8:30 A.M., in Room 172 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Mark Noland, Chair (R)
Rep. Amanda Curtis, Vice Chair (D)
Rep. Vince Ricci, Vice Chair (R)
Rep. Fred Anderson (R)
Rep. Willis Curdy (D)
Rep. Ross H. Fitzgerald (R)
Rep. Moffie Funk (D)
Rep. Bruce Grubbs (R)
Rep. Steve Gunderson (R)
Rep. Denley M. Loge (R)
Rep. Andrea Olsen (D)
Rep. Adam Rosendale (R)
Rep. Sharon Stewart-Peregoy (D)
Rep. Jeremy Trebas (R)
Rep. Sue Vinton (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Gordon Pierson Jr (D)
Rep. Casey Schreiner (D)
Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy (D)
Rep. Daniel Zolnikov (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Karen Armstrong, Committee Secretary
Pat Murdo, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 298, 3/10/2017; SB 309, 3/10/2017; SB 325, 3/10/2017
Executive Action: SB 212, SB 219, SB 275, SB 289, SB 312

HEARING ON SB 309

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:47 Sen. Lea Whitford (D), SD 8, opened the hearing on SB 309, Revise economic development laws related to Indian country, tourism.

[EXHIBIT\(buh59a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(buh59a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(buh59a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(buh59a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(buh59a05\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(buh59a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(buh59a07\)](#)

00:04:41 Rep. Pierson joined the meeting.

00:10:04 Rep. Schreiner joined the meeting.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:14:27 Sen. Susan Webber

00:17:38 Jason Smith, Governor's Office of Indian Affairs

00:19:55 Roland Kennerly, Blackfeet Tribal Business Council

00:23:09 Heather Cahoon, Montana Budget and Policy Center

[EXHIBIT\(buh59a08\)](#)

00:29:19 Jordan Thompson, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation

00:32:12 Loren Birdrattler, Self

00:34:53 Gayle Skunkcap, Jr., Blackfeet Tribal Council

00:38:27 Alger Swingley, Self

Opponents' Testimony:

00:41:54 Steve Wahrlich, Self

00:48:10 Stuart Doggett, Montana Lodging and Hospitality Association

00:54:12 Jim Tucker, Self

00:59:16 Rep. Stewart-Peregoy

Informational Testimony:

01:00:01 Sean Becker, Montana Department of Commerce (DOC)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:00:33 Rep. Loge

01:01:19 Sen. Whitford

01:03:17 Rep. Loge

01:03:28 Sen. Whitford

01:03:38 Chair Noland

01:10:52 Recessed.

01:10:07 Reconvened.

01:10:29 Rep. Loge
01:10:44 Sen. Whitford
01:11:34 Rep. Olsen
01:12:19 Sean Becker, DOC
01:12:41 Rep. Vinton
01:13:24 Sen. Whitford

Closing by Sponsor:

01:15:09 Sen. Whitford

HEARING ON SB 298**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:22:49 Sen. Ryan Osmundson (R), SD 15, opened the hearing on SB 298, Revise workers compensation relating to religious individuals and entities.

EXHIBIT(buh59a09)

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

01:25:54 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Building Industry Association (MBIA)
01:29:51 Bill Pierce, Pierce and Associates - Builders
01:32:02 Basil Jacobson, United Materials
01:33:42 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent Business
01:35:16 Chris Cavazos,, AFL-CIO
01:36:09 Webb Brown, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)
01:36:14 Cary Hegreberg, Montana Contractors' Association
01:37:17 J. D. Lynch, Montana Building and Construction Trades Council

Informational Testimony:

01:37:42 Mark Cadwallader, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:38:20 Rep. Vinton
01:39:53 Sen. Osmundson
01:40:26 Rep. Curdy
01:41:41 Mark Cadwallader, DLI
01:43:54 Rep. Funk
01:44:34 Sen. Osmundson
01:46:32 Rep. Funk
01:47:43 Rep. Loge
01:49:28 Rep. Vinton
01:50:59 Mark Cadwallader, DLI
01:52:02 Rep. Fitzgerald
01:53:48 Mark Cadwallader, DLI

Closing by Sponsor:

01:54:53 Sen. Osmundson

HEARING ON SB 325**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:56:20 Sen. Brian Hoven (R), SD 13, opened the hearing on SB 325, Give safe harbors for employers hiring certain criminals.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:00:07 Steve Cape, Coalition for Safety and Justice
02:03:46 Webb Brown, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)
02:04:55 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB)
02:07:51 Rep. Amanda Curtis, Self

Opponents' Testimony:

02:09:27 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association (MTLA)

[EXHIBIT\(buh59a10\)](#)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:11:54 Rep. Olsen
02:12:30 Sen. Hoven
02:12:35 Rep. Vinton
02:13:45 Al Smith, MTLA
02:14:08 Rep. Loge
02:14:35 Al Smith, MTLA

Closing by Sponsor:

02:15:03 Sen. Hoven

02:15:36 Chair Noland

02:16:34 Pat Murdo, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

[EXHIBIT\(buh59a11\)](#)

02:20:58 Chair Noland

[EXHIBIT\(buh59a12\)](#)

02:21:31 Pat Murdo, LSD

02:25:00 Chair Noland

02:25:11 Recessed

02:48:42 Reconvened with Rep. Loge, Rep. Windy Boy and Rep. Zolnikov excused.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 212

02:49:16 **Motion:** Rep. Ricci moved that **SB 212 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

02:49:58 Rep. Curtis
02:50:42 Rep. Grubbs

02:51:13 Rep. Funk
02:52:18 Rep. Olsen

02:53:49 **Vote:** Motion failed 8-11 by roll call vote with Rep. Curdy, Rep. Curtis, Rep. Funk, Rep. Olsen, Rep. Pierson, Rep. Schreiner, Rep. Stewart-Peregoy and Rep. Windy Boy voting aye. Rep. Loge, Rep. Windy Boy and Rep. Zolnikov voted by proxy.

02:54:52 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Ricci moved that **SB 212 BE TABLED**. Motion carried 16-3 by voice vote with Rep. Curtis, Rep. Olsen and Rep. Windy Boy voting no. Rep. Loge, Rep. Windy Boy and Rep. Zolnikov voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 219

02:55:32 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Ricci moved that **SB 219 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried 14-5 by roll call vote with Rep. Curdy, Rep. Curtis, Rep. Olsen, Rep. Pierson and Rep. Windy Boy voting no. Rep. Loge, Rep. Windy Boy and Rep. Zolnikov voted by proxy. Rep. Fitzgerald will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 275

02:57:41 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Ricci moved that **SB 275 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Loge, Rep. Windy Boy and Rep. Zolnikov voted by proxy. Rep. Vinton will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 289

02:58:49 **Motion:** Rep. Ricci moved that **SB 289 BE CONCURRED IN**.

02:59:11 **Motion:** Rep. Ricci moved that **SB 289 BE AMENDED**.
[EXHIBIT\(buh59a13\)](#)

Discussion:

02:59:37 Rep. Olsen
03:01:10 Rep. Curtis
03:02:02 Rep. Curdy

03:02:49 **Vote:** Motion carried 11-8 by roll call vote with Rep. Curdy, Rep. Curtis, Rep. Funk, Rep. Olsen, Rep. Pierson, Rep. Schreiner, Rep. Stewart-Peregoy and Rep. Windy Boy voting no. Rep. Loge, Rep. Windy Boy and Rep. Zolnikov voted by proxy.

03:04:21 **Motion:** Rep. Ricci moved that **SB 289 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED**.

Discussion:

03:04:34 Rep Trebas

03:04:59 **Vote:** Motion failed 7-12 by roll call vote with Rep. Fitzgerald, Rep. Grubbs, Rep. Gunderson, Rep. Loge, Rep. Noland, Rep. Rosendale and Rep. Vinton voting aye. Rep. Loge, Rep. Windy Boy and Rep. Zolnikov voted by proxy.

03:06:29 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Ricci moved that **SB 289 BE TABLED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Loge, Rep. Windy Boy and Rep. Zolnikov voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 312

03:07:08 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Ricci moved that **SB 312 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Loge, Rep. Windy Boy and Rep. Zolnikov voted by proxy. Rep. Pierson will carry the bill.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 03:07:18

Karen Armstrong, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([buh59aad.pdf](#))